

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
COUNTY OF NEWPORT**

APPROVED 10/25/10

The Town Council of the Town of Tiverton, County and State aforesaid held a Special Town Council Meeting at the Tiverton Town Hall, 343 Highland Road on Monday, the 18th day of October 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

President Bollin opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Bollin, Vice President Arruda, Councilor Costa, Councilor Durfee, Councilor Lambert, Councilor Leonard and Councilor Roderick

Town Administrator James Goncalo and Solicitor Andy Teitz were also present.

Request for Appointment

Economic Development Commission – Unexpired Term to 6/30/2014 Edward R. Haddad, 11 Watermark Drive

Mr. Haddad gave an overview of his background as a developer in commercial real estate, served on the Planning Board in Winchester, MA, had not yet read the Comp. Plan.

Councilor Durfee made a motion, seconded by Councilor Leonard to appoint Edward R. Haddad to the Economic Development Commission for an unexpired term to 6/30/2014. Motion passed unanimously.

Garry Plunkett, East Bay Consortium Report on Phase II Feasibility Study

a.Draft Town Council Motion of Support

Garry Plunkett, Tiverton representative on the East Bay Energy Consortium (EBEC), gave the Council at the last meeting a report on the executive summary for the wind power project. Dan Mendelsohn, project lead, provided a slide show presentation on the feasibility study up to this point. Mr. Plunkett thanked Mr. Mendelsohn for outstanding contributions. EBEC consists of 9 communities formed to offset municipal electrical loads and to maximize production revenues. ASA is global, active in energy sector development, has computer-modeling expertise. Local projects include RI Winds and RI Ocean SAMP project. In siting the project assessed minimum wind speeds in order to develop an economic feasible project. Developed screening criteria, 6.4 m/s, focused on municipal lots, 10 acres minimum because of fall zone, then looked at connect assessment. Ruled out certain areas based on criteria, ended with Tiverton and Little Compton. Little Compton has better wind resource but interconnect cost was significantly greater than the Industrial Park.

Looked at the Industrial Park, Fire and Water District sites potentially available for development. Focused on as large an area as possible, need spacing to offset wake effect, Ind. Park not as big as it looks. Could fit 8-10, off the shelf, focused on 2.5 MW with as large a blade as possible. Would also have typical special use permit considerations. Evaluated four different projects, 20 mw 80m and 100m hub and 25mw 80m and 100m hub heights. The 100m hub is approximately 492 feet high. Showed maps with fall zones, a site zoning map and abutters map. Permitting considerations were listed, including but not limited to wind energy ordinance, shadow flicker, noise, electrical, setbacks, watershed overlay. Some clearing will be necessary, noise assessment, a 10-turbine project plotted at a 55-decibel ring, within the Town Ordinance.

Revenue cost to develop estimated at \$2,700kw without any financing or grants. Net power value of \$23 million dollars a benefit to EBEC over 20 years assuming net metering. Not a good deal for the EBEC if a third party is included. The best benefit comes with the 25mw, 100m hub, a 30% benefit. Several photos of the turbines, taken from various places and distances were shown. The benefit to hosting, estimate the Town would get \$100,000/year over 20 years for the lease rate and 1/9 of the projected revenues.

Councilors questioned the fall zone, the amount of acres used which would not be available for development, Mr. Plunkett stressed this was just a part of the feasibility study in order to develop a plan to proceed, no commitment from the Town to spend a cent. Councilor Durfee proposed a consideration for the Town should be built in the resolution, also concerned about lawsuits and adverse affects on the quality of life relative to noise and shadow flicker for area residents. Other concerns included additional development of the Industrial Park, revenue sharing;

possible merging of lots, trying to ensure the Town won't come out on the negative side. Has a great deal of merit, needs additional language.

Solicitor Teitz questioned net metering, if there was a dialogue with the water districts, if the EBEC had a separate corporate existence, obligation bonds and the ability to sell electricity to others. Although not public hearing residents questioned ability to sell Industrial Park lots, projects of a similar size, decibel levels at optimum speed.

Councilor Durfee made a motion to adopt the draft resolution with the additional language added after the last sentence as follows:

The Tiverton Town Council approves the concept of a wind energy system to be located in the Tiverton Industrial Park, as described in the *EBEC Phase II Wind Energy Project Feasibility Study* dated July 2010 done by Applied Sciences Associates, Inc. of South Kingstown, RI. Wind energy development in the Park would be compatible with the Park Master Plan now being concurrently developed.

Member communities of the East Bay Energy Consortium (EBEC) would proportionately share costs and benefits of the wind energy system. This endorsement supports proceeding with developing system specifications, a legal framework for ownership and revenue sharing, and securing renewable energy incentives to minimize costs to member communities.

This endorsement does not constitute final commitment to the project nor obligate Tiverton to additional financial support to EBEC. Nor does it commit the Town to precede without resolution to the satisfaction of the Town 1) of appropriate compensation to the Town 2) all environmental impact to the Town and it's residents. Councilor Roderick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Town Solicitor – Litigation – Pursuant 42-46-5(a)(2)

Executive Session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Costa made a motion, seconded by Councilor Roderick to adjourn the Special Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

A True Copy. **ATTEST:** _____ Nancy L. Mello,
Town Clerk